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## News from Local Congregations

**Peace Congregational UCC, Clemson, SC, Pastor Susie Smith**, has begun a ministry to those who have been severely affected by the current economic crisis. Here is a link to news of this ministry:

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2009/jan/09/church-bringing-people-together-weather-economic-s>.

**Kirkwood UCC, Atlanta, Pastor Susannah Davis**, announced that they have outgrown their current worshipping space, and have had 100 people in worship in December.



Pleasant Hill Community Church

**Pleasant Hill Community UCC** announced that it has sent 56 hygiene kits to Church World Service, as effort organized by Sharon Weible. They also held an **Alternative Christmas Fair November 22nd**. With representatives of 21 missions and agencies, members shopped for gifts that keep on giving to others.

Many of those who heard Barack Obama's speech on the occasion of winning the presidential election recall the name **Ann Nixon Cooper** whose story he remembered in the speech. Ms. Cooper is a member of **First Congregational UCC, Atlanta**.

**First Church, Atlanta** also has been selected as a **2008-2009 Mission Year Site by Volunteers in Mission of Wider Church Ministries, UCC**. Three married couples are living the Vine City area of Atlanta, and will serve the communities around Washington High School and University Homes from September 2008–September 2009.

There are two congregations of the Conference that are in the **UCC Partners in Building Program**. Through this program of Local Church Ministries, UCC, they receive support and resources for visioning and equipping their ministries for a five year period as they prepare to receive financing from LCM for a church building. Those congregations are **Unity UCC, Montgomery, AL**, pastor **Bennie Liggins, and United Church UCC, Cookeville, TN**, pastor **Tom Eckert**.

**Garden of Grace UCC, Columbia, SC**, has joined with other congregations as a part of a nationwide movement to make a witness at the South Carolina State House in support of **marriage equality**.

Posted on January 20, 2009



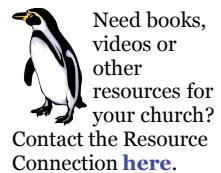
Theology Among the People



Check out our Lay Theology Program called "TAP", Theology Among the People. [Click here](#).



Does your church need to update its website or develop a brand? [Click here](#) to learn more.



Are you interested in starting a new church or being a part of a new church start? Click [here](#) to learn more about our Church Development program.



Comma Connections are launching in the SEC. Click [here](#) to learn more.



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1330 West Peachtree Street, Suite 350, Atlanta, GA 30309

Office: 800.807.1993, Fax: 404.607.7939